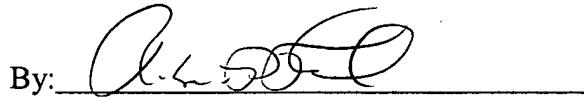


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner indicated the claim identifiers for claims 1-2, 9-10, 13-16 and 19-20 are not in conformity with the new amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121 and further indicated the correct claim identifier for each of these claims is "Currently Amended". Applicant has amended the claims accordingly as shown in the listing of claims, beginning on page 2 of this paper. However, applicant wishes to point out that the amendments to claims 13-16 were included in the annex to the International Preliminary Examination Report (see the attached IPER and Annex thereto), thus the claim identifier, "Currently Amended" does not seem appropriate for claims 13-16. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner indicate the citation, which states that amendments made during the prosecution of a parent PCT application are not automatically included in the claims examined in the National Stage case (see Examiner's handwritten notes on paper 10).

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: 2/27/04
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